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INT 717/1

18 December 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR CAPTAIN SMEDBERG

SUBJECT: Press release concerning House Military Affairs Committee Report regarding National Intelligence Authority.

Enc. (A). Copy of report on system currently employed in the collection, valuation, and dissemination of intelligence affecting the war potential of the United States by the House Military Affairs Committee.

1. Captain Nunn of the Judge Advocate General's Office advises regarding subject report as follows:

(a) It is the work of Mr. Burton, investigating council for the House Military Affairs Committee.

(b) No hearings were held in connection with proposal of subject report.

(c) Report has not been adopted by the House Military Affairs Committee.

(d) No bill has been prepared covering the recommendations of subject report.

(e) The press release was made by Mr. Burton.

2. The Chief of Naval Intelligence has reviewed enclosure A and found it objectional because:

(a) It recommends that the Director of Central Intelligence be a civilian.

(b) It recommends that the CIG not undertake any operations for the collection of intelligence.

(c) It will damage the morale of personnel

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3. If recommendation five of subject report can be interpreted as authority for an officer to be the director of Central Intelligence, then objection two is not serious. However, objection two (b) is serious and will have very delaterious effect on the CIG and its activities of vital interest to the Navy.

4. It is recommended that the Secretary of the Navy request members of the House Military Affairs Committee to make a statement to the press as follows:

"The report on the system currently employed in the collection, evaluation, and dissemination of intelligence affect the war potential of the United States released to the press on 17 December has not been adopted by the House Military Affairs Committee and the press release relating thereto was not authorized by the committee".

5. In connection with the recommendation in paragraph four above, it is desired to state that appropriate legislative authority for the C.I.G. is desired. Therefore, if the Secretary believes that the above recommended action will adversely affect enactment of desired legislation then no action is recommended.

Thos. B. Inglis

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